(d) whether Government would make any consultation with the agricultural labour organisation to implement the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The Government has launched 'Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana—2001' w.e.f. 1.7.2001. The scheme which is being implemented through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) envisages providing life-cum-death insurance, money-back, pension and superannuation benefits. Agricultural workers in the age group of 18-50 years are eligible under the scheme. The worker will pay Re. 1 per day or Rs. 365 per annum whereas the Govt. will contribute Rs. 2 per day or Rs. 730 per year per beneficiary. 4654 agricultural labourers have been registered under the scheme as on 30.11.2001 as per the latest information.

(d) and (e) The scheme is in operation through the agencies like Gram Panchayats and district level agencies. There is no proposal to consult agricultural labour organisation at present.

Child Labour in Industries

2686. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of using child labour in the industries like carpet, bidi, glass, crackers, mach-making etc. during the past 5 years;

(b) the details of the steps to eradicate child labour in these industries during the above period;

(c) whether the steps taken so far have borne any fruit in eradicating or reducing child labour;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Authentic information on child labour in the country is generated during the deciennial Census. According to the 1991 census, the number of working children in India is 11.28 million. Industry wise number of working children is not maintained.

(b) to (e) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years. In occupations and processes

listed in the Schedule to the Act. Industries like carpet, bidi, glass, crackers, match-making etc. have already been included in the schedule to the Act. The Government of India has also been implementing two schemes, for rehabilitation of children withdraw from work, namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) and the scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisation.

The major activity under the NCLP is the running of special schools/ centres for rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work through non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, health care, stipend etc.

So far, 100 NCLPs have been sanctioned for coverage of 2.11 lakh children through 3962 centres in 13 child labour endemic states. One of the main objectives of the Scheme is to mainstream children withdrawn from work into formal schools. As per the information received so far from about 45 NCLPs, approximately 69000 children have already been mainstreamed into the formal school system.

Welfare Fund for Workers Abroad

†2687. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to create a welfare fund for the employees posted in foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether Government have been taken any step so far in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) A proposal for setting up of a Central Manpower Export Promotion Council and Constitution of a Welfare Fund for the emigrant workers is under consideration of the Government.

Job Seekers

†2688. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any assessment of the number of people in the country seeking employment;

(b) if so, what has been the annual average rate of increase in the number of people seeking employment in the country during 80's and 90's; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.